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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 21, 2013

On Saturday, October 26, 2013, the Killeen Police Department will be partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. This program gives citizens an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that lay unused in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. The rate of prescription drug abuse in the United States are alarmingly high – more Americans currently abuse prescription drugs than the number of those using cocaine, hallucinogens and heroin combined, According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

“Prescription drug abuse is a major epidemic across the country and the DEA is committed to reducing the potential for misuse by providing a safe and secure method for citizens to clean out their medicine cabinets and properly dispose of unwanted, unneeded or expired medication. This nationwide community effort prevents home medicine cabinets from becoming sources of dangerous and even deadly drugs.” said DEA Administrator Michele M. Leonhart.

Citizens, who are interested in ridding their home medicine cabinets of prescription medication, can bring them to the Killeen Police Headquarters located at 3304 Community Blvd. or to the Killeen Police Department North Precinct located at 402 N. 2nd St. from Monday, October 21, 2013 through Saturday, October 26, 2013.

If you have any questions please feel free to call Carroll Smith at 501-8807.

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